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SERMON

DELIVERED IN THE CATHEDRAL OF OTTAWA AT THE FUNERAL OF THE

LATE H. J. FRIEL, ESQ.,

MAYOR OF OTTAWA,

[By A.M. Dawson]

ON WEDNESDAY, 19TH MAY, 1869.

PREFACE.

"For my part," said Pericles the son of Xantippus, at the commencement of a funeral oration, "I think it sufficient for men who have approved their virtue in action, by action to be honored for it—by such as you see the public gratitude now performing about this funeral; and that the virtues of many ought not to be endangered by the management of any one person when their credit must precariously depend on his oration, which may be good and may be bad. * * * The hearer enlightened by a long acquaintance, and warm in his affection, may

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quickly pronounce everything unfavorably expressed, in respect to what he wishes and what he knows,—whilst the stranger pronounceth all exaggerated, through envy of those deeds which he is conscious are above his own achievement. For, the praises bestowed upon others, are then only to be endured, when men imagine they can do those feats which they hear to have been done. They envy what they cannot equal, and immediately pronounce it false. Yet as this solemnity hath received its sanction from the authority of our ancestors, it is my duty also to obey the law, and to endeavour to procure, as far as I am able, the good will and approbation of all my audience." (*Thucydides—Hist. of Pelop. War—Dr. Smith's translation, Philadelphia*, 1840.)

There were in the audience before which Pericles pronounced the panegyric of men who had deserved well of their country, many who knew their virtues and their public services, as well as a great number of younger or newly arrived citizens who were but little, if at all, acquainted with them. This circumstance was calculated to cause that embarrassment of which the orator so candidly complains. I must own that I laboured under the like difficulty when quite unexpectedly called upon to deliver an oration over the remains of our lamented Mayor. His actions, although not of the same brilliancy as great military achievements in defence of one's country, were, nevertheless, such as could not be allowed to pass without fitting praise. And although this praise was most eloquently expressed by the presence at the funeral of a very numerous congregation, consisting of the fellow-citizens of the deceased, as well as many of the most distinguished men of this new nation, together with Senators,

Heads of the Government and members of the House of Commons, I could not refuse to comply with a custom which has the sanction of ancient as well as modern times. If in doing so, I could not hope to escape such charges as the Athenian orator alludes to, on the part of the newer men of our city, yet I had the consolation to reflect that in what I said regarding the virtues, the abilities and the services of the late worthy Mayor of Ottawa, I could not fail to be sustained by all who knew him intimately from the commencement of his career, and that, moreover, I could rely on their indulgence for my shortcomings in my eulogium of an upright citizen whose merits as a public man were so well known to them all.

SERMON

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Mayor of Ottawa,

ON WEDNESDAY 19TH MAY, 1869.

Statutum est hominibus semel mori.
It is appointed unto men once to die.
HEB. IX, 27.

In the midst of this solemn and mournful scene, it may appear superfluous, dear Brethren, that I should repeat the great scriptural sentence,—"*it is appointed unto men once to die.*" The grim tyrant—death—stalks forth daily and hourly amongst the children of men, and seizes on his victims without respect of persons. The rich and the poor are alike made subject to his power, the learned and the unlearned, the most exalted in worldly station as well as the most humble and lowly. (*æquo pulsat pede et regum turres pauperumque tabernas.*) We behold habitually his fearful ravages, the tears which he causes to flow, the groans and the heart-rendings of the bereaved. The busy world, meanwhile pursues the tenor of its way, and we heed not the presence of the dread visitor. But when he enters the dwellings of such as are eminent amongst us, and strikes down the happy and the prosperous who have many friends, death's terrors are realized and we feel as if his awful summons were delivered at every door. But what do I say? For the true

christian death has no terrors. *From the bondage of fear Christ hath set his followers free.* (Heb. II. 15. II. Tim. I. 7 Rom. 8, 15.) "*There is no condemnation to them who are in Christ Jesus, who walk not according to the flesh.*" (Rom. 8 ; 1.) He has conquered for them death and the grave. (I. Cor. 15, 22.) Relying upon his word, we can presume to say in the midst of this Temple, changed as it is into a house of mourning, and whilst sharing the sorrows of an afflicted family, and most forcibly reminded of the common doom ; "Where, O, grave! is thy victory? Death! where is thy sting?" (I. Cor. 15, 55).

The more that we have reason to lament the loss of our late excellent chief magistrate, so much the more have we ground to hope that whilst so suddenly called to undergo the awful change, he has been happily summoned from the labours and usefulness of this life to the rest and rewards of a better state. His many virtues encourage this hope. What virtue was there, enjoined by our Divine Religion, that he did not practice? His temperance, prudence and self-denial throughout life, were truly remarkable. And let it not be said that he had no choice—that on account of his delicate constitution, these virtues were imposed on him by irresistible necessity. Necessity had no law for him any more than for other men, any more than for the many thousands who, with the same incitements to virtue, walk in evil ways and hurry headlong to perdition. Ah! dearest brethren, who ever, no matter what the constitution with which nature had endowed him, no matter what his position in life, or the difficulties or facilities with which he was surrounded, presumed to set at nought those laws which the Creator has engraven in every heart, more legibly than they were inscribed on tables of stone when delivered to Israel of old amid the thunders of Sinai, and enjoyed the blessing of health, reputation or any degree of success in the world? Such considerations were not for him, to honour whose memory we are assembled, in greater measure than for other men, inducements to virtue. And, how powerless are not such things in presence of human passion and wordly temptation? It belongs only to the christian to surmount such formidable impediments. Before the grace of God was given through Christ, our Teacher and Redeemer, men could only have an imperfect conception of virtue. At best, they

could only admire and extol it. *Video meliora proboqne, deteriora sequor.*" "I know and approve the better things," said the most eminent among the sages of pre-christian times "I choose the worse and the unworthy." Whence this humiliating avowal, dear brethren? To the well instructed christian it is no mystery. Philosophy possessed not, knew not that grace through which alone man can resist evil and follow virtue. "*Sine me nihil potestis facere.*" *Joan:* 15; 5. "*Without me you can do nothing.*" "*Omnia possum in eo qui me comfortat.*" *Philip:* 4; 13. *I can do all things in HIM who strengtheneth me.* And when the will of the christian, like that of the heathen sage, is tempted to rebel, or at least, would fain be delivered from the dread provocations to rebellion, the words once spoken from above to the blessed Paul, are at hand: MY GRACE IS SUFFICIENT FOR THEE. *Sufficit tibi gratia mea* (II Cor. 12: 9.) Relying upon this Divine assurance and not upon mere human strength, or philosophy, or considerations of health, or fame, or success, our chief magistrate whose too early death we mourn, undertook whilst yet on the threshold of existence, the greatest of all works—the work of subduing passion—resisting evil in all its forms—of doing good—following virtue. It was his merit, humanly speaking, that in this noble undertaking he succeeded. But in reality, he claimed no merit that could be called his own alone. If his voice could now be heard as it has been so often heard amongst our people, we should hear him declare that it was by no other means than by the grace of God through Jesus Chsist, his saviour and ours, my dearest brethren, that he won in life the victory which beyond death and the grave is now crowned, may we not hopefully affirm it? with glory everlasting.

When only ten years of age Henry J. Friel was deprived of both his parents. About the same time, the property and business on which they relied, becoming unavailable the orphan so tender in years, stood face to face with the world and its cares. He could not have had time as yet, to derive much benefit from educational training. So, quite unprepared, and at the age when youth requires to be taken by the hand, to be taught, encouraged, and sustained, he commenced the great battle of life, alone and friendless, in the midst of a community where it was scarcely possible that

his position, or his merit, or his energy and daring should be appreciated. Such a mind was not to be held in bondage. It was not destined to be fettered by the hard and unremitting toil of a mechanic. The noble art of printing to which he ardently applied in the newspaper office of the late Dr. Christie, must now give place to the labours of the pen. The most assiduous self-culture had done its work. The new writer becomes the editor and proprietor of a Journal and toils no longer on a newspaper staff in the humble capacity of a mechanic and apprentice boy.

From this time we behold him exercising all the duties of a good and zealous member of the new community which was rising up around him. But here we must pause in order to consider his literary talents. In literature Mr. H. J. Friel was the prodigy of the place. A correct and vigorous writer without having learned in schools, a graceful, elegant and fluent orator without having heard from Pedagogues that there were such men as Cicero and Demosthenes, our departed mayor has more than ordinary claims to our attention and respect. There are many in this great assembly who are perfectly conversant with his writings on purely literary as well as political subjects, and who, I can rely upon it, will sustain me when I hesitate not to say that his was a high place among the best writers of the time. *Qua elegantia scribebat eadem dicere solebat.* He spoke with as much facility and elegance as he wrote. But why should I recount this fine accomplishment? You have often heard him. All they who have been dwellers in Ottawa for the last twenty years, will readily bear witness to the pains which he bestowed in preparing those discourses—masterpieces of English composition and eloquence,—which he delivered before the Mechanics' Institute and other societies of this city. Our citizens are also cognizant of the readiness and kindly feeling, with which he gave the aid of his eloquence on all occasions when it could be properly available, in support of our benevolent institutions. On such occasions he was always listened to with pleasure, and so popular was his style of addressing public assemblies that he was invariably called on to speak at all meetings of the people at which he happened to be present. There could be no better proof than this desire to hear him so frequently expressed by his fellow citizens, of the excellence to which Mr. Friel had at-

tained as an orator. With such recollections flashing on our minds in the midst of this mournful scene, we cannot do less than assign to our chief Magistrate whose remains are so soon to be committed to the silent tomb, the first place among orators in this neighborhood—in central Canada, whilst there are few, if indeed any, by whom he was surpassed in the whole Dominion. If he has not left any work which would remain a monument of his abili[illegible]and great literary attainments, this loss and it is undou[illegible]y a loss—a blank in the world of letters, must be ascribed not to any want of energy on the part of Mr. Friel, but to the fashion of the time which renders all the talent it possesses chiefly tributary to its periodical literature. If, indeed, anything could be said to surpass the accomplishments by which our late Mayor was distinguished and which were the honorable and well won fruit of the most meritorious self-culture, it was his industry—his diligence and patience in acquiring knowledge—the perseverance and the courage with which he pursued those objects of benevolence and improvement in which he was habitually engaged. The requirements of the age together with his labours in the public service, left him no time that he could devote to the building up of an enduring monument of literary fame. Those who desire to see the proof that he was equal to such a task, will find it, not only in the Journals which he himself so ably conducted, but also, in the *Literary Garland* of Montreal, and other magazines of the time.

As a Journalist and political writer, Mr. Friel exercised considerable influence in his day, not only in his own locality, but also throughout the Provinces. I shall not here enter into the details of his career as a public writer. Let it suffice to say that he was always a reformer, holding firmly and defending fearlessly, the great reform principle of equal rights. This principle he considered as an essential element in our Constitution,—that time-honored constitution which dates from the earliest epoch of our country's history, and which, we trust, will be handed down unimpaired to our children and our children's children, till the remotest eras.

His principles and services were appreciated by those leading Reformers, Messrs. Baldwin and Lafontaine. These gentlemen, in concert with their liberal minded colleagues, conferred on him the offices of Deputy Clerk of the Crown

and Clerk of the County Court of Carleton.* This was only a commencement of their favor. But it was no slight mark of the improvement of the times, when a Catholic and a Reformer could be appointed to offices of even such moderate importance. Mr. Friel held these appointments for some years when, in 1857, he resigned them of his own accord, in order to become a candidate for a seat in the Provinciai Legislature. In this, however, like many an able man besides himself, he was defeated. As has been already observed, this is no place for details. But it may be generally remarked that the late H. J. Friel was as conspicuous and exemplary by prudence and moderation throughout his career as a political Journalist, as by wisdom and sobriety in the tenor of his life. He was more than once in times less tranquil than the present, the means under Heaven, of preserving peace between contending parties. And is it nothing to be a peace-maker? Such, Divine inspiration declares, ARE BLESSED. And does not society bless them? And does not our youthful country bless them? And will it not continue to extol them so long as peace and union and concord shall be necessary for our national existence, our prosperity, our glory, and our happiness both individually, and collectively as a people?

In a more advanced state of society than that in which the lot of our late Mayor was cast, his abilities and attainments might have been merely ornamental. But in a community in which every thing had to be created on which the social state depends, such a man could not fail to be useful. If we may not venture to say that he was called into existence in order to meet the wants of the time, it is no exaggeration to affirm that his energies were awakened, and his character as a public man, chiefly formed by the pressing sense of these wants. Accordingly we find that from the early age of twenty-three, when a member of the Municipal Board, till the time of his last illness, he never ceased to promote improvements of every kind and to encourage the founding of those institutions which were so necessary for a community which was destined to become

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* In connection with these offices, Mr. Friel was also Registrar of the Surrogate Court, Deputy Clerk of the Crown and Pleas, and Clerk of the Crown for the County of Carleton.

numerous and to occupy an influential position in the land. No doubt it was not apparent so long ago as the year 1846, that the village of Bytown which owed its beginnings to the officer—the late Colonel By—who built the Rideau canal, would possess to-day those magnificent buildings in which the Legislature of the Canadian Dominion assembles. But nevertheless, Mr. H. J. Friel, together with other patriotic citizens who co-operated with him, as if actuated by a presentiment of the future greatness of the little town, laboured both earnestly and diligently, and, ceased not to struggle perseveringly as became the pioneers of a civilization higher by far than that in which they commenced their toils, *through evil report and good report.* Their laudable endeavours, it is scarcely necessary to observe, were crowned with such success, that at the time at which the Government took its seat at Ottawa, none of those institutions could be said to be wanting which were calculated to meet the requirements of a city of its extent and prospects. Improvement had been carried on so far in every way, that they who had been accustomed to the comforts, the convenience, the symmetry and the beauty of more ancient cities, were delighted to find on arriving at Ottawa. that there were none of those eyesores which they had been led to dread. On the contrary, they beheld everywhere spacious and well laid out streets, a convenient and even elegant style of street architecture. well supplied markets, shops where everything was at hand which use or fashion could require, and withal, the greatest activity in every department of city progress—new streets opened, new buildings erected, suburbs arising in the environs, manufactures extending, the foaming Ottawa itself becoming every day more and more subservient to the will and the wants of man, adapting itself with surprising rapidity to the purposes of multiplied communications and developed commerce. In all the deliberations and discussions which preceded, and were more or less directly the cause of these beneficial results, Mr. H. J. Friel bore a prominent share, and in his capacity of Councillor, Reeve, Mayor, encouraged every useful project, and willingly undertook, even more than ought properly to have fallen to his lot, of the labour that was necessary for carrying it out.

Works of benevolence and charity meanwhile were not neglected. The fruits of these works are now a benefit

alike and an ornament to the City. And they will long remain, may we hope, to bless our people and to relieve our poor in the generations that are to come. No doubt, many causes were at work, whilst such beneficent undertakings were originated and realized The church was preaching charity and inciting her children to make sacrifices in its cause; good citizens lent a willing hand, benevolent and charitable men concurred, many even devoting themselves and entering the ranks of associations whose object was the purest charity. Among such associations may be named and with highest honor, the society of St. Vincent de Paul. This society devotes itself exclusively to charity. And its charity is both liberal and universal, never descending to be *narrow and partial in its operation*. Mr. H. J. Friel was one of its most zealous members and most efficient promoters. As such he deserves to be honored in this place. And for this it is, chiefly, that he is now, we doubt it not, exalted in that new state of existence to which he has been called. For, are not they pronounced *blessed* who have consideration for the needy and the poor? *Beatus qui intelligit super egenum et pauperem.* (Psm. 40;2.)

A good christian is invariably a good citizen. That in his capacity of citizen, the late Mr. Friel was more than ordinarily meritorious, a glance at the numerous institutions which he so materially aided in founding, will abundantly prove. In the early days of the city, such an institution as our *Mechanics' Institute* appeared to be a requirement of the time. Our population was unfortunately divided both politically and religiously. It was desirable, therefore, that there should be some neutral ground on which all could meet as well for an interchange of ideas as for mutual improvement. Such a powerful aid towards social progress was not to be thrown aside or treated with neglect. Mr. Friel, as a public man, appreciated this new influence, and and availed himself of the earliest opportunity for rendering it tributary to the cause of civic improvement. *The Mechanics' Institute and Atheneum of Ottawa* was founded. Mr. Friel never ceased to be its warmest supporter, as he was, from its earliest beginnings, its enlightened counsellor. It is only justice to the Institute itself to state that it has continued true to the principles and views which led to its establishment. Its halls have never been stained by any-

thing like party strife or the bitterness of religious controversy.

The Society called by the name of *St. John the Baptist*, and which, from the early date of its formation, has afforded the most favorable representation of French Canadian nationality at Ottawa, owes many advantages to the encouragement so widely and liberally extended to it by our departed chief magistrate.

The Irish national society—*St. Patrick's*—was also indebted to Mr. Friel for a generous moral support and the most salutary counsel. In fairness to that Society, it must be added that, guided by sound principles, and the sage advice of such wise counsellors as our late lamented Mayor, it continued for many years to grow in importance and to prosper, doing honor to the city as well as to the country which it represents.

But details are superfluous. Let it suffice to observe that all the national societies, the chief object of which, as is well known, was benevolence, met with all the countenance and well deserved support which it was possible or suitable for Mr. Friel to bestow.

The many improvements of which the City stood in need, were zealously and energetically forwarded by Mr. Friel, both as Mayor and Municipal Councillor; and not blindly or in obedience to generous impulse merely, but according to the knowledge and enlightenment with which he was endowed.

No doubt, the city of the woods could not always have lagged behind the age as it did, and it is no disparagement, to say it, at its commencements. It was not destined to continue in a state of physical anymore than of intellectual darkness. But that it possessed so soon a system of Gas works was due in great measure to the zeal and activity with which Mr. Friel urged on his fellow citizens the necessity of this improvement.

Some twenty years ago the town was steadily advancing. But it remained as yet, shut out to a certain extent, from the rest of the world. The age had now become faster if not better. Mankind were laid under the necessity of travelling by Railways and at Railway speed. Ottawa could not stay behind. It must have its railway. In this as in everything else that concerned the public good, Mr. Friel

was destined to bear his part. Mr. Robert Bell, lately M. P. for the county of Russell, was, indeed, the first promoter of the Ottawa & Prescott Railway which has been in full operation for fourteen years, but nevertheless, the usual zeal and ability and perseverance of H. J. Friel were at work, and tended to hasten its construction. He was one of its first directors, and in this position sustained the flagging spirits of his fellow-citizens who were delighted whilst amazed at a work which, for the time and the place, was a truly gigantic undertaking.

Mr. Friel powerfully cooperated also in constituting that committee of citizens which may not inappropriately, be termed, the Commercial Parliament of Central Canada,—*the Ottawa Board of Trade.* The interests of a community which had now become so flourishing, required to be respectably and influentially represented.

The desired representation was found in the Board of Trade, with which Mr. Friel, from its earliest days, identified himself, and of which he always continued to be a leading and respected counsellor.

It will be said, perhaps, that it was his ambition as a citizen of Ottawa, that induced Mr. Friel to recommend this city, which he frequently did both in public addresses and through the *Union* newspaper, as the most suitable place for a permanent *seat of government.* The opinion which he so often expressed, however, it must be remarked, was held also by the most eminent statesmen and leading military characters of Great Britain. It has been even affirmed that Champlain himself pointed to the spot where Ottawa now stands, as the site of a future city which, at some epoch more or less remote, would rule an extensive country. Be this as it may, the judgment so often rendered by our late Mayor, both orally and in the press, is now irrevocably confirmed by the Imperial Legislature and the decision of her most gracious Majesty the Queen.

Nothing need now be said in support of the arguments which Mr. Friel as a patriotic journalist, was wont to adduce and eloquently urge in favor of *the Ottawa Ship Canal.* Now that the North West Territory has been acquired, and that the rapid colonization of the vast countries which that Territory contains, has become a necessity of the time, it is obvious alike to all thinking men, that a canal which will

afford access to the fertile lands of the Red River, the Saskatchewan and the Assiniboine, as well as to the coal mines, the gold fields and the Pacific Ocean harbours of British Columbia, from all Lower and Central Canada, no less than from the Atlantic Provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward's Island, and Newfoundland, whilst Great Britain and other European countries will be glad to avail themselves of the new communication in the interest of their manifold relations with America and the distant East, may well be considered as a work of more than national—of world-wide importance. Its merits could not fail to be appreciated by such a writer as the late Mr. Friel, and it highly redounds to his honor that at a time when public opinion was far from being so matured as at the present day, he possessed the moral courage to devote his pen to the advocacy of a scheme so beneficial and so grand, but which at the time at which he first undertook to write in its support, was so little understood.

What improvement can be pointed to that our late worthy Mayor did not countenance and even earnestly labour to forward? It had become manifest that the city increasing rapidly as it is well known to increase, could not much longer remain without a system of water works. In this respect it was behind many towns of less importance than itself. It suffered, moreover, very grievously from the privation. It suffered in its funds more than can be calculated. It suffered in its credit, especially with Insurance Companies, for it possessed no means of extinguishing promptly the destructive fires which were of such frequent occurrence. It suffered as regarded its extension and improvement, being less attractive to parties who might on other grounds have thought of choosing it as their place of abode. It suffered as concerned the health of its inhabitants, more perfect drainage, ventilation and cleanliness which an abundant supply of water fails not to secure, becoming every day more n cessary as the population increased. May it not be said, even, that it suffered in respect of the piety and morals of its people? For who does not know that cleanliness which is unattainable without fresh and limpid water, is closely allied to Godliness? To procure so great an advantage to the city, as a never failing supply of the purest water from an uncorrupted source, was the latest labour of

our lamented Mayor. And like all his labours in the public cause, it was a labour of love. Fortunately his private affairs were in such a position as to allow him the full command of his time, and he devoted it without fee or other reward than the inward satisfaction of doing good, to the service of his fellow citizens.

Mr. Friel was also as far as his influence extended a patron of letters and the fine arts, Instances could be adduced of parties who had learned to use their pen with facility having obtained profitable employment through his prompt and direct interference in their behalf. And it is still within the recollection of many citizens of Ottawa when there was question not over two years ago, of doing honor to a gifted and aspiring votary of the Muses, H. J. Friel as Mayor of the city, lent all his countenance, and even graced the Chair at the Banquet which it was resolved to hold on an occasion not unworthy of such honor. As regards his readiness and zeal in advancing the cause of the fine arts which he viewed as a powerful means of improvement, let a distinguished professor, the ablest artist of the place bear witness. That Mr. Friel posessed in an eminent degree the confidence of his fellow citizens generally, is abundantly evident from the fact that throughout the whole of his too brief public career, he continued to be a prominent member of the municipal council. He was first elected to this position in 1846 when the town was first incorporated. He was several times chosen Reeve in the earlier days of the community. And when called from this earthly scene, he was for the fourth time Mayor of the city of Ottawa. No doubt in the course of his long and zealous services he must have excited opposition. The ability, the energy, the ardor with which he pushed forward so many improvements, could not fail to stir up hostility in the minds of parties less well informed and less appreciative than himself. There may have been at times a certain amount of irritation. But who is there now that would not lay aside every adverse feeling, resentment, even if it existed, in presence of his early and yet open grave? If he used the weapon of language which he could wield so ably, in order to convince and to persuade unwilling minds, for what other purpose was it given him? And if any ever felt its sting—and if a remembrance still remain, let it be laid with him

where he now lies, lifeless, on that bier, amid the sad and solemn pomp of death! All his aims were good. And, ye! if there be any such, who think that he pursued them with more ardour than was fitting, or misapplied his power of eloquence in urging them in the face of apathy or opposition, behold that countenance so calm and serene in its everlasting stillness, which can give life no more, for its own is gone, to the public meeting or the social circle,—behold those lips which but yesterday, discoursed so eloquently, now pale and cold and forever silent, and bid your souls be still! Be hushed the storm of thought amid this mournful scene! Be the mind, itself subdued—awed to composure and to peace in presence of the high decree which has snatched from life so early, a deserving citizen in the zenith of his reputation and midway in his career of usefulness!

If his span of life, too short alas! was honorable to our lamented Mayor as a man and as a citizen, so was its close such as becomes a true christian. No sooner was he given to understand that the malady which ended his time on earth, would prove fatal, than he expressed his resignation to the Divine will. "I regret life," he said, "on account of the good I might still have been able to accomplish, but I willingly submit." The few hours that still remained were spent between prayer to God and conversations with his friends. We have been taught to admire the last moments of some of the pre-christian sages. But can they compare with those of the faithful christian? He knows that *they they are blessed who die in the Lord*, (Apoc. 14, 13.) (*Beati mortui qui in Domino moriuntur*), that *there is no condemnation unto them who are in* CHRIST JESUS. Relying on this knowledge, the christian soul is borne aloft upon the wings of hope. He has lived *soberly, righteously, and godly in this world*," shall he not then have confidence when called to meet his God and Saviour? (*Sobrie et juste, et pie vivamus in hoc sæcvlo, expectantes beatam spem et adventum gloriæ magni Dei et Salvatoris nostri Jesu Christi*, Titus II, 11.) Such was the comforting reflection which sustained our good Mayor during the last hours of his sojourn on earth. Such was the Christian hope which enabled him to converse about high and holy and heavenly things with as much composure as if he had been only preparing for a temporary absence from his earthly home. At last as the day of rest

was about to dawn he said composedly, "*it is growing dark.*" As he spoke, his vision failed; his life ebbed away, and he beheld not the approaching light of God's day as it broke for the slumbering world. But with that new power of vision which came to him as his material sight declined, he beheld the dawn of the everlasting sabbath day in the Heavens above. It was appointed for him no more to worship at our altars and celebrate an earthly sabbath. Nor could he account this appointment, so stern to our thinking, as loss. For he had gone to that Temple and to that Altar where CHRIST our HIGH PRIEST himself ministereth, *mediating for us*, Heb. (7, 25,)* *having entered once into the Holies through his blood of the New Testament*, (Hebrews 9.) There,—even in Heaven's high Sanctuary, united with CHRIST JESUS by the bonds of redeeming love, participates the departed soul in that holiest worship and sacrificial atonement of the DIVINE SON, the SOVEREIGN HIGH PRIEST, the MEDIATOR between GOD and men, (I Tim. 2, 5,) in respect of which our worship here below, notwithstanding that it is most holy and excellent and of Divine Institution, is, nevertheless, only as veiled and hidden glory.

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* Semper vivens ad interpellandum pro nobis.

FUNERAL

OF THE

LATE H. J. FRIEL, ESQ.,

MAYOR OF OTTAWA,

ON WEDNESDAY, 19TH MAY, 1869.

From the Ottawa Times, May 20, 1869.

The remains of the late HENRY J. FRIEL, Esq , Mayor of the city of Ottawa, whose mortal career was terminated by death on Sunday morning last, were placed in their final resting place yesterday afternoon.

On Monday morning the members of the Council assembled in the city hall for the purpose of considering what measures were most proper to be taken under the circumstances, when resolutions of condolence with Mrs. Friel, in her sad bereavement, were passed, and a committee appointed to confer with the family as to whether a public funeral would be acceptable, as the Council were desirous of paying this tribute of respect to the memory of the deceased. After some consultation the proposition was accepted, and a funeral committee was immediately appointed to make the necessary arrangements.

The committee at once conferred with the presidents of the several national associations and other public bodies, all of whom promptly accepted the proposal. They sent invitations to the members of the Government, who expressed their intention of being present. They also invited the members of the Senate and of the House of Commons, receiving favourable answers in all cases. And similar results were obtained from a conference with the proper

authorities in reference to the volunteers and the fire brigade.

The undertaker's department was assigned to Mr. Swalwell, who carried out the intention of the Council in the most satisfactory manner. The funeral was arranged to take place yesterday at two o'clock. For an hour or two before that time the streets were thronged with people, busy in preparations to atteud the mournful ceremonies.

A large number of the friends of the deceased visited the house to take a last look at the well known features, and presently the members of the City Council, with the officials, arrived in carriages and entered the house for the same friendly purpose. We also noticed Sir John A. Macdonald, Sir George E. Cartier, Hon. Mr. Tilley, Hon. Mr. Macdougall, Hon. Mr. Rose, Hon. Mr. Kenny, Hon. Mr. Chapais, and we believe other ministers were present. We observed also, several deputy heads and clerks of departments.

The corpse was placed in a beautiful metallic coffin, having six silver handles, and a silver breast plate, inscribed—"Henry James Friel, Esq., Mayor of Ottawa, died 16th May, 1869, aged 45 years." Beneath this was a beautiful cross formed of immortelles, and a bouquet of flowers.

At two o'clock the face cover was placed on the coffin, and shortly after, the coffin was removed to the funeral car waiting to receive it. The signal men of the Ottawa Field Battery communicated the fact, and the first minute gun was fired, which was continued until the coffin was received in the Cathedral. The gun was also the signal for the funeral cortege to move. The following is the order of the procession, marshalled by Mr. Thomas Langrell, as chief, assisted by six aids :—

St. George's Society with Union Jack and Cross of St. George.
Pupils of Ottawa College.
St. Jean Baptiste Society with Tricolour.
St. Andrew's Society with St. Andrew's Cross.
Irish Protestant Benevolent Society with Union Jack.
St. Joseph's Society with Tricolour.
Medical attendants and profession.
The Clergy.
Undertaker.
Band of Rifle Brigade.

Funeral car, richly draped, drawn by six horses, led by six advanced pall bearers, furnished from the national societies. Twelve pall bearers, viz.: Joseph Aumond, Esq., Alexander Workman, Esq., Thomas Hanly, Esq., E. McGillivray, Esq., J. M. Currier, Esq., M. P., James Goodwin, Esq., Dr. Beaubien, Sheriff Powell, R. W. Scott, Esq., M.L.A., Robert Lyon, Esq., H. V. Noel, Esq., and James Rochester, Esq.

Chief mourners in carriages and on foot: Rev. Father O'Connor, Mr. Daniel O'Connor, Mr. R. E. O'Connor, Rev. Father Collins, Mr. G. H. Perry, Mr. James O'Reilly, Q.C., Mr. W. H. Waller, Mr. Roderic Ryan, and ladies of the family.

Police Commissioners.
Members of the Corporation.
Officials.
Corporation of the county of Carleton.
Board of Trade.
Mechanics' Institute.
Press.
Bar.
Ministry.
Members of the Senate.
Members of the House of Commons.
Civil Service.
Volunteers.
Fire Brigade.
Citizens.
Police Force.
Band.
Governor-General's Carriage.
Mourning Carriages.

The cortege moved slowly down King street to Rideau. On reaching the latter street the Rifle Brigade band commenced the solemn strains of the Dead March.

Thousands of people lined King, Rideau and Sussex streets, and moved in silence with the procession.

The catafalque was a large and handsomely draped car, ornamented with six British flags and one Tricolour, all draped. The car was also surmounted with sable plumes. But the mournfully grand pageant was less sought after than the coffin which contained the remains of him it was designed to honour.

The procession was fully half a mile in length. The members of all the societies wore mourning badges, and the

members of the corporation and officials, besides hat bands and scarfs, wore on their breasts a crape rosette, enclosing a miniature portrait of the late Mayor.

SERVICES IN THE CHURCH.

On arriving at the Cathedral a very large number of people assembled outside, so that it was difficult to get near the building. As soon, however, as the coffin appeared, the crowd fell back, and an avenue was formed to the doors, which were now opened. Inside, His Lordship the Bishop of Ottawa, His Lordship Bishop Laroque, of St. Hyacinthe, and a large number of the clergy and accolites accompanied the coffin to the lofty and beautifully designed catafalque erected in the cathedral for the purpose. The sacred edifice, including the altar, the pulpit, and the gallery, was elegantly draped with black crape, mixed with white.

As soon as the coffin was brought into the Cathedral, the organ pealed forth Beethoven's grand funeral march. *Sub venite* was then chanted, and afterwards *Dies iræ* was sung by the choir of St. Joseph's Church, of which the deceased was a parishioner.

THE SERMON.

The Rev. Father Dawson ascended the pulpit, and taking for his text: "It is appointed for men once to die," delivered a most eloquent discourse on the personal qualities of the deceased. After describing the terrors naturally inspired by death he spoke of the glory achieved by Christ over death and the grave, of the Christian's faith robbing death of its horrors, and making of it but the passage to eternal life. Applying this to the late Mr. Friel he passed a warm tribute to his Christian virtues, to his self control and moderation of life, his triumph over his own passions, and his cultivation of his great talents, and the application of his abilities to the good of his fellow citizens. In these respects Mr. Friel had deserved the respect and gratitude which had been shown to him on this solemn occasion. The late chief magistrate had been honoured by his fellow citizens with their confidence, which had raised him to a most exalted position in their midst; and he had performed all the duties

of that high position in a disinterested and devoted manner, caring only for the public good. After recapitulating Mr. Friel's services in a public capacity, his ability as a writer and an orator were next reviewed. In both capacities the highest praise was bestowed on him as one of the foremost in the country. His career was held up as an example to young men to imitate his industry and perseverance in the cultivation of the talents with which he had been gifted. The Rev. gentleman closed his discourse with a touching reference to the Christian example displayed in the last hours of the deceased, who when the dawn of the Sabbath morn was breaking, said to those around him, "it is growing dark," and gently passed from the darkness of this world to the eternal light of the everlasting Sabbath in Heaven.

After the sermon the *Pie Jesu*, from Beethoven, was sung, and afterwards the *Inflammatus* chorus and solo. This was followed by the *Libera*, a plain chant, sung by both choirs united. The Bishop assisted by the clergy, Monseigneur Laroque, Bishop of St. Hyacinthe, also being present, performed the services for the dead in the most solemn manner. This concluded, the coffin was removed and borne from the church, the organ playing Smith's funeral march. The cathedral which had been entirely filled by people of all religious denominations now poured forth its vast multitude to rejoin the procession which, in the same order as before, proceeded with slow and solemn step up Sussex-st. to Rideau, and up Rideau to the Roman Catholic Cemetery on Sandy Hill.

AT THE GRAVE.

The coffin was now brought from the funeral car to the family grave. Previous to being lowered to the last earthly resting place the coffin was placed in another coffin covered with cloth, and that again in a shell. His Lordship the Bishop, assisted by the Rev. Father Dandurand, Vicar-General; Rev. Father Pallier, Parish Priest of St. Joseph's; and the Rev. Father Collins, performed the last ceremonies in a voice tremulous with emotion. The vast crowd stood uncovered in almost breathless silence to catch every word till the last word was pronounced. And all that was mortal

of him, who but a few days ago was the city's chief magistrate, lay cold and lifeless in the grave. He discharged his duty to the city well when he was living, and the city has honoured him in his death, and thus honoured itself.

We cannot conclude without expressing our satisfaction at the general compliance, on the part of tradesmen and storekeepers with the request of the council, that they should close their places of business from two to five o'clock. Not only was this cheerfully done, but many persons very fully draped their houses in mourning, and the public generally join us in thanking them for it.